SUBJECTS.

190. *Abolition of Kuttakapattom lands—Munambom.*

Mr. A. Govinda Menon prayed for the abolition of Kuttakapattom in regard to Munambam lands and their conversion into Pandarapattom tenure.

Dewan's reply.—I shall call for all the papers and go through them carefully, and see if any relief can be reasonably granted.

The consideration of all the subjects being over, Mr. A. J. Vieyra, Chief Secretary to Government, read a letter from the Dewan Peishkar of the Kottayam Division, intimating that, in accordance with the announcement made by the Dewan the previous day, he assembled all the 29 members of the Kottayam Division, for the purpose of nominating a non-official member to the Legislative Council, and that 24 of the members voted for Mr. K. K. Kuruvila, B. A., B. C. E., retired Executive Engineer, 4 for Mr. E. J. John, B. A., B. L., High Court Vakil, and one for Mr. K. G. Parameswara Menon, B. A., B. L., High Court Vakil.

The Dewan said that Government will take the nomination made by the majority into due consideration.

The Chief Secretary to Government then announced that, at the meeting of the Nair and Samantha members of the Assembly held by him, to nominate three members to the Committee for enquiring into the present system of inheritance, 37 members voted for Mr. M. Krishna Pillai, B. A., Retired District and Sessions Judge, 37 for Mr. K. P. Padmanabha Menon, B. A., B. L., High Court Vakil, and 31 for Mr. K. Krishnan Pandalai, B. A., B. L.. High Court Vakil.

The Dewan said that, in appointing the Committee, Government would give due consideration to the three names proposed.

Mr. K. K. Kuruvila, Member, Agricultural Association Changanacheri, them spoke as follows:—

Sir,—On behalf of the representatives in this Assembly and the people of Travancore, allow me to convey to you our deep sense of loyalty and gratitude to His Highness our Gracious Sovereign for His Highness' paternal kindness and deep solicitude in all that concerns the welfare of us, his loving subjects.

To you, Sir, we are deeply indebted and sincerely thankful for the unfailing sympathy and consideration with which from the first you have dealt with the numerous

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subjects brought up by the members. Equally are we touched by the great courtesy shown to us and thankful for the excellent arrangements made for our comfort and entertainment. The favours, asked and unasked, that you have granted are many and most valuable, and we offer our sincere thanks for them. Where requests have not been granted, we recognise that the denial was not due to any lack of sympathy with our aspirations. If we may say one word about ourselves, we would say that we are not insensible to our many faults. But we trust that all our errors of judgment or expression will be viewed with that leniency and sympathy which you have already shown to us.

At the request of the members who made me their spokesman, I beg also to give expression, on this occasion, to our grateful appreciation of the part taken by the Senior Dewan Peishkar, Mr. V. Nagam Aiya, in initiating the arrangement that has enabled us to meet you as President so early after your taking charge of the administration.

Mr. S. Shunmukham Pillai, Member, Tovala Taluk, also expressed thanks to the Dewan for the full and patient hearing he gave to the representations of the several members and for the excellent arrangements made for their convenience.

The Dewan, in acknowledging these appreciative expressions, said :—

Gentlemen,—I thank you most heartily for the very kind sentiments which have been expressed by Mr. Kuruvila and Mr. Shunmukham Pillai on behalf of this Assembly. I shall with great pleasure submit to His Highness the Maha Raja your very dutiful message of loyalty and devotion. I take this opportunity to say, on behalf of Government, that we attach great importance to this annual gathering. We are of opinion that it serves a very important public purpose, in bringing together the Dewan and the heads of departments with the representatives of the people. It enables us to understand at first hand your wants and difficulties; and I also feel assured that you, on your part, better realize the difficulties of Government by having been brought into direct contact with its chief officers. Personally, I consider it most fortunate for me that, so soon after taking charge of the administration of the State, I have had the opportunity of meeting a large body of representative men and knowing from them directly what they think in regard to the several administrative

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questions which are now engaging or will soon engage the consideration of Government. I am aware that, in replying to such a large number of requests, I must have caused some disappointment by declining to grant so many of them. I feel, however, very thankful to you for having taken what I have said in such good part. When I go out on tour, it will give me great pleasure to meet you in your own places. We can then talk over your local wants at greater leisure than we have been able to do here; and we shall then also have better opportunities of judging of them. I trust, gentlemen, that the moderation and sound common-sense which have characterised your utterances here, will always continue to be a marked feature of the proceedings of this Assembly in the days to come. And now I shall bid you good-bye and wish you all a safe return to your homes.

The proceedings of the fourth meeting of the Assembly were then brought to a close and the Assembly dissolved at 6 P. M.

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